

Annual Report

The Vietnam Education Foundation

Reporting Period: *October 1, 2002 to September 30, 2004*

To: The President of the United States

The Committee on Foreign Relations of the U.S. Senate

The Committee on International Relations of the U.S. House of Representatives

From: The Board of Directors, Vietnam Education Foundation

Date: October 31, 2004

This is a report by the Board of Directors of the Vietnam Education Foundation in compliance with Sec. 209. (b) of P.L. 106-554, Title II – Vietnam Education Foundation Act of 2000.

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SUMMARY

The Vietnam Education Foundation (VEF) has had an excellent start and is doing exceptionally well. Since its operational launch in March 2003, four programs highlight the efforts of VEF: the Fellowship Program, the Seminar Program, Centers of Excellence, and the VEF Community. The programs have been managed successfully within budget.

Through the Fellowship Program, VEF has selected and placed 102 outstanding Vietnamese nationals at 37 top graduate schools across the United States. These students were chosen from a large national pool of applicants, through an open, competitive, and transparent process that involved the U.S. National Academies and the American scientific community. These VEF Fellows are doing well in schools and will become important bridges between the U.S. and Vietnam.

To carry out the Seminar Program, VEF has cooperated with the U.S. National Academies to mobilize and send 33 American scientists to Vietnam to deliver scientific seminars and lectures at more than 30 research and educational institutions throughout the country. These activities are intended to help Vietnam strengthen its internal science and technology capacity while promoting linkages between the scientific communities of Vietnam and the United States.

As we have begun the process of training the next generation of Vietnamese scientists and educators, it is critical that there will be career opportunities for these young scientists upon their return to Vietnam. By helping Vietnam develop centers of excellence, VEF has also begun that important task. VEF is working with the Vietnamese government and the U.S. scientific community to help Vietnam establish these centers of excellence in science and technology. Modeled after successful efforts in other developing countries, these centers would be supported by funding from the World Bank.

Looking further ahead, one important task for VEF is to create a spirit of community and solidarity among our Fellows and help them sustain professional and personal ties with the United States. To begin that task, the VEF Village has been launched. It is an online community created and maintained by VEF Fellows as a place where they can communicate and share scientific projects and professional activities. In addition, with the assistance of the U.S. National Academies, VEF has organized an annual fellowship conference to allow VEF and its Fellows to interact with the U.S. scientific community.

Financially, VEF has operated within budget. VEF receives \$5 million annually from the Vietnam Debt Repayment Fund, to which the Vietnamese government repays the pre-1975 debts owed to the United States by South Vietnam. As of the end of fiscal year 2004, VEF showed a positive balance of \$7.75 million due to available funds from the previous fiscal years. This balance is to become fully obligated during the next three years as VEF continues to add new Fellows to the program and implements its strategic plan.

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Given its small budget, VEF aims to be a catalyst to promote positive educational and scientific changes in Vietnam that would bring Vietnam and the United States closer together. Within the first 18 months of operation, VEF has built a solid record of success. Indeed, VEF is functioning as an effective foreign policy tool to promote the U.S. national interests in Vietnam.

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Legislative Background

The Vietnam Education Foundation (VEF) began as a congressional initiative whose purpose was to bring the U.S. and Vietnam closer through educational training in science and education. Funding for VEF comes from Vietnam's debt repayments to the U.S.

In October 2000, the Vietnam Education Foundation Act (Appendix 1) was passed by the U.S. Congress, authorizing mandatory funding of \$5 million per year to VEF until 2018. The Act established that VEF would be an independent federal agency reporting to the U.S. Congress and the President. Its activities would include bringing qualified Vietnamese nationals to the U.S. for graduate studies in science and technology (S&T) and sending qualified Americans to Vietnam to teach in the same fields. Upon passage of the Act, President Clinton announced the establishment of VEF in a keynote address at the Vietnam National University in Hanoi in October 2000.

By law, VEF is governed by a Board of Directors (Appendix 2) including the Secretaries of State, Treasury and Education; two U.S. Senators; two U.S. Representatives; and six Presidential appointees on three-year terms.

Mission and Strategy

The mission of VEF is to help Vietnam build excellence in science and technology, and by so doing, bring the U.S. and Vietnam closer together, as shown in the approved October 2003 VEF strategy (Appendix 3). Specifically, VEF aims to help Vietnam establish a science, engineering, and medical community of people and institutions that can implement a strong teaching and research agenda, create economic growth, maintain scientific cooperation with the U.S., and enable Vietnam to gain from, and contribute to, scientific and technological advances globally. These are ambitious but important objectives for VEF.

While its funding is essential, the most important value of VEF is its ability to leverage resources and mobilize the American scientific and educational community to help Vietnam. The Foundation's strategy therefore calls for VEF to be a catalyst, to focus on high-quality activities, and to expand Vietnam's existing S&T strengths.

VEF headquarters and field office

Establishing the U.S. headquarters and the Vietnam field office has been top priority during this initial start-up period. Through an extensive national search, the Board of Directors selected Mr. Kien D. Pham as the founding Executive Director. Mr. Pham assumed his post on March 17, 2003, and opened the VEF headquarters in Arlington, Virginia, on the same day. Mr. Pham came with strong leadership credentials from the public, private, and non-profit sectors.

The U.S. headquarters of VEF has a small staff of three persons: the Executive Director, the Senior Program Officer, and the Director of Administration, Finance and Accounting. VEF contracts the U.S. General Service Administration to carry out essential support functions such as payroll, accounting, and legal services, thus avoiding the need for a large overhead.

In November 2003, VEF opened a field office in Hanoi, Vietnam. This field office is staffed by seven full-time local contract employees, including one Administration, Finance and Accounting manager, one Information Technology manager, two program managers and three program assistants. In addition, VEF has contracted with a U.S. citizen to help manage the Hanoi office for 12 months.

Despite the physical distance and time difference, the two offices function well together. Daily communication is conducted via email and conference calls. VEF headquarters' staff has traveled to Vietnam for extended periods to assist in the establishment of the Hanoi office and to develop and lead the Fellowship Program, the Seminar program, and the Centers of Excellence effort.

Fellowship Program

The flagship educational exchange activity for VEF is the VEF Fellowship Program. Annually, highly qualified Vietnamese nationals are selected through an open, competitive and transparent process to attend top U.S. graduate schools in their field of interest. VEF engages the U.S. National Academies to assist in an extensive selection process based on academic background and skills as well as potential to contribute to the scientific and technological development of Vietnam.

For 2003 (Cohort 1), 19 Fellows were selected by the U.S. National Academies among 80 Vietnamese nationals who had already been admitted to U.S. universities. For 2004 (Cohort 2), out of more than 800 applications, 83 Fellows were selected. For 2005 (Cohort 3), more than 1500 applications were submitted and 62 have been recommended to receive Fellowships. As the program becomes more well-known in Vietnam, we expect the number of applicants to rise, as will the quality of the applicants due to better preparation.

The fellowship selection process (Appendix 4) involves no decision-making by the Vietnamese and includes an oral exam conducted by American scientists dispatched by the U.S. National Academies. A total of 33 American scientists served as oral examiners on these selection panels in January 2004 for Cohort 2 and in August 2004 for Cohort 3 (Appendix 5). In addition, dozens of American scientists served in the U.S. as application reviewers at the request of the U.S. National Academies.

To facilitate the Fellows' transition to U.S. campus life, VEF provided intensive pre-academic preparation through a cultural orientation and English-language training at the University of Foreign Studies in Hanoi and at the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign. The preparation programs focused on advanced English-as-a-Second-Language skills, including pronunciation and interactions with native speakers; academic skills including listening to lectures, note taking, skimming, research writing, using online resources, reading/writing in science and technology, and giving oral presentations; techniques for success in the American university classroom; and cross-cultural understanding. These programs lasted eight weeks during the summer.

In addition, with help from the Institute of International Education (IIE), VEF conducted a pre-departure orientation in Vietnam for all Fellows to familiarize them with academic and cultural issues. Topics for the pre-departure orientation included the following: Life for Vietnamese Students on a U.S. Campus; Group Building Activities; VEF Grant Terms and Expectations of Your Fellowship; Life in America: Dealing with Cultural Shock, Money Matters, Telecommunications & Transportation, Postal Service; Visas Requirements while in the U.S.; What Your Foreign Student Advisor Can Do For You; Introduction to Life on a U.S. University Campus: Academic Integrity, Academic Culture, Class Participation, and Campus Resources; Preparing for your Thesis or Dissertation; Tips, Suggestions, and Experiences from a Vietnamese Perspective: Health and Wellness, Studying/Research Tips, Campus and Social Life; The Vietnamese-American Community and What to Expect; and U.S. University Library Systems and Research Tools.

For the academic year 2004-2005, a total of 102 fellows (19 in Cohort 1 and 83 in Cohort 2) are attending 37 U.S. universities and studying in 45 subject fields (Appendix 6, Appendix 7). Most (84%) are pursuing a doctorate degree while some (16%) are pursuing a master's degree. Females number 22% and males 78%. The majority of Fellows (60%) have been young university instructors in Vietnam. The major fields of study are divided between Engineering (42%) and Natural Sciences (58%). Within those broad groupings, Computer and Information Sciences leads (19%), followed by Health and Medical Sciences (17%), Electrical and Computer Engineering (11%), Biological Sciences (5%), Chemistry (5%), Mathematical Sciences (5%) and Physics (5%).

While the primary focus is to look for the best Vietnamese candidates in all major S&T disciplines, VEF pays close attention to Information Technology (including Mathematics), Bio-Technology (especially in Agricultural Science), and Public Health. These disciplines are included in the Vietnamese government's S&T agenda, and all these three priority fields have shown signs of strength and potential for excellence in Vietnam. In the future, this list of priority fields for VEF might change or be expanded to respond to the emerging S&T needs of Vietnam.

Regarding visa and financial matters for its Fellows, VEF engages the Institute of International Education (IIE) to serve as visa sponsor on behalf of VEF for the J-1 student visa that requires a two-year home residency. IIE also acts on behalf of VEF to make payments to the Fellows for their monthly stipends and health insurance, and to pay the universities for tuition and fees. The obligations of the Fellows are spelled out in a signed agreement with VEF. A sample grant letter, issued by IIE together with VEF, providing the terms of agreement for the 2004 Cohort is attached (Appendix 8).

Seminar Program

Besides sending Vietnamese nationals to the U.S. for training, VEF also brings American experts in science and technology to Vietnam to lecture and teach. VEF coordinates this activity with the U.S. National Academies, other U.S. government agencies such as NASA, HHS, USDA, and various research and educational organizations in Vietnam. The goal is to strengthen Vietnam's internal S&T capacity.

In April 2004, Dr. Phillip Griffiths of the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, New Jersey, led a team of five international scientists from the U.S., Malaysia, South Korea, and Chile to Vietnam to conduct a seminar on the creation of Centers of Excellence in Vietnam.

In August 2004, Dr. Stephen Smale from the University of California at Berkeley and Dr. Vu Van of the University of California in San Diego delivered a seminar on math and computer science at the Institute of Mathematics at the Vietnam Academy of Science and Technology (VAST).

Also in August 2004, VEF organized a series of 32 different program activities (Appendix 9) for fifteen visiting U.S. scientists, who came to Vietnam at the invitation of the U.S. National Academies to interview VEF Fellows. The extensive program included 25 presentations, lectures and seminars at Vietnamese universities and institutes; two live online interviews on VietnamNet; one network television interview; three visits to university campuses; and one field visit to catfish farms. These activities occurred in locations across Vietnam, including Hanoi, Hue, Danang, Nha Trang, Ho Chi Minh City, and the Mekong Delta region.

During this reporting period, VEF has been involved in planning four more seminars to take place in Vietnam: one on nanotechnology, one on information technology, another on research methodology, and a fourth on soybean biotechnology. The first was held in October 2004 in cooperation with the U.S. Air Force. Dr. Minoos Dastoor of NASA was the keynote speaker for the International Workshop on NanoScience and Nanotechnology, which took place in Hanoi. The second seminar, on the development of IT sector, will be held in cooperation with the Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST) in December 2004. The third seminar is planned for January 2005—a workshop series on research methodology—in partnership with the United States Department of Health and Human Services. The fourth seminar that VEF is planning is a soybean biotechnology workshop in March 2005, co-sponsored with the USDA.

Centers of Excellence

While helping Vietnam develop its talents, VEF supports the strengthening and development of educational and research institutions as another avenue to build excellence in Vietnam. If not, Vietnam would face a brain drain problem in the future when well-trained Vietnamese scientists, upon returning to Vietnam after their academic program in the U.S., would have no place to practice at home. To help Vietnam prevent this problem, VEF is mobilizing American professors and scientists to work with the Vietnamese government and with Vietnamese institutions and organizations to develop the foundation for quality research and education in Vietnam.

As a primary effort, the Centers of Excellence initiative was ignited in January 2004 during a visit with the Prime Minister Phan Van Khai by Dr. Phillip Griffiths, head of the Science Initiative Group (SIG), Institute for Advanced Study, in Princeton, New Jersey. SIG is the administrative head of the Millennium Science Initiative (MSI) funded by the World Bank. VEF then organized a seminar in April 2004, entitled "Building Science and Technology Capacity in Viet Nam," that brought together relevant Vietnamese organizations and experts to discuss MSI. Information on MSI in various countries, including Chile, Brazil, Mexico, India, Africa, is posted at the VEF website (www.vef.gov/other.htm).

A cooperative agreement on MSI has been drafted and discussed among MOST, VEF, and SIG. The agreement is expected to be signed officially by these three entities in November 2004. A project proposal is to be sent to the Prime Minister of Vietnam for approval within 2005, after which it will be sent to the World Bank for funding. Notably, the World Bank has been included in discussions because of its extensive involvement in funding such initiatives.

VEF Community

Building the VEF Community, two primary activities are underway: the VEF Village and the VEF Annual Conference. The first is the online VEF Village, wholly created and maintained by the VEF Fellows. The purpose of the online Village is to build a positive communication network among the Fellows so that they can share similar experiences, dialogue openly on issues and ideas, and support each other professionally and personally. A strong fellowship among these U.S.-trained scientists and technology experts provides a foundation of cooperation not only while the Fellows are in the U.S., but also when they return to Vietnam.

The second activity, continuing to solidify the VEF community, is the VEF Annual Conference. VEF, in cooperation with the U.S. National Academies, will host a conference in Washington, D.C., in December 2004, entitled “Developing Science and Technology: The Best of, by, and for Vietnam.” The purpose of the conference is multifold: to share knowledge and success in order to expand capabilities and potential of VEF Fellows; to learn from, and build relationships with, U.S. scientists and scholars who are interested in the development of Vietnam; and to inform the global scientific and technological communities about VEF and its Fellows.

The topics for the conference will include the following: Cross-cultural issues; Becoming Established and Achieving Academic Success; Effective Communication and Presentation Skills for Scientists; Publishing a Scientific Paper; Scientific Ethics; Professional Organizations; An Overview of Needs Assessment in Vietnam; Building an Advanced Research and Educational System in Vietnam; Funding Research in the International Community; and Developing an Action Plan for Vietnam. VEF Fellows also have the opportunity to present their previous, current, or proposed research during a poster session at the conference.

Participants and presenters of the conference, besides the 102 current VEF Fellows and select VEF and National Academies’ staff, include scientists and experts in technology, professional associations dedicated to the advancement of science and technology, government agencies supporting Vietnam and the development of science and technology, corporations interested in developments in science and technology in Vietnam, and others supporting the mission of VEF.

Finance and Accounting

The Vietnam Education Foundation receives its funding from the Socialist Republic of Vietnam's repayment of loan amounts owed to the United States. Transfers in the total amount of \$5 million are received each fiscal year by VEF from the Vietnam Debt Repayment Fund.

VEF uses accrual accounting in accordance with OMB policies on federal government financial management. Using this accounting method, revenues are recognized when earned, and expenses are recognized when a liability is incurred, without regard to receipt or payment of cash.

For FY 2004 VEF received its full funding amount of \$5.0 million. With the carryover amount recoveries from previous fiscal years of \$8.8 million, VEF had a total amount available for obligation of \$13.8 million. The large carryover amount was the result of very little activity in the two fiscal years preceding FY 2004 primarily because of the delayed appointment of its Board of Directors by Congress and the President.

Total obligations for FY 2004 were \$6.1 million. Of the total obligations, \$3.7 million was obligated for the estimated 2004-2005 academic year costs for VEF's 102 fellows. As of the end of fiscal year 2004, VEF had an available unobligated balance of \$ 7.7 million. This positive balance will become fully obligated to support current Fellows as well as incoming Fellows during the next three years. Per OMB's requirements, an annual financial audit is currently underway.

VEF's fellowships include amounts for tuition and fees, monthly stipends, basic health insurance, travel to the university and back home upon completion of the program, an allowance for books and supplies, and a one-time settling-in allowance. Due to cost of living in different locations and school tuition, the amounts are variable for each Fellow, except the books and supplies allowance, which is currently \$1,200 and \$500 per student. Fellowships are renewed annually based upon several factors, including success in one's chosen academic program and the availability of funds.

Conclusion

Through the numerous activities of the Vietnam Education Foundation, positive relationships between the U.S. and Vietnam have been created. The long term benefits of the VEF Fellowship program will be evident with time as VEF Fellows return to Vietnam. In the meantime, the contributions to the development of science and technology in Vietnam have already begun through the Seminar Program and the Centers of Excellence initiative. The groundwork has been established and, as with any successful venture, success breeds success. Now, VEF is contending with funding for an ever-increasing number of individuals qualified for the Fellowships and for the development of additional programs.

APPENDIX 1

The Vietnam Education Foundation Act

U.S. Public Law 106-554

TITLE II--VIETNAM EDUCATION FOUNDATION ACT OF 2000

SEC. 201. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the `Vietnam Education Foundation Act of 2000'.

SEC. 202. PURPOSES.

The purposes of this title are the following:

- (1) To establish an international fellowship program under which--
 - (A) Vietnamese nationals can undertake graduate and post-graduate level studies in the sciences (natural, physical, and environmental), mathematics, medicine, and technology (including information technology) in the United States; and
 - (B) United States citizens can teach in the fields specified in subparagraph (A) in academic institutions in Vietnam.
- (2) To further the process of reconciliation between the United States and Vietnam and the building of a bilateral relationship serving the interests of both countries.

SEC. 203. DEFINITIONS.

In this title:

- (1) BOARD- The term `Board' means the Board of Directors of the Foundation.
- (2) FOUNDATION- The term `Foundation' means the Vietnam Education Foundation established in section 204.
- (3) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION- The term `institution of higher education' has the meaning given the term in section 101(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001(a)).
- (4) UNITED STATES-VIETNAM DEBT AGREEMENT- The term `United States-Vietnam debt agreement' means the Agreement Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam Regarding the Consolidation and Rescheduling of Certain Debts Owed to, Guaranteed by, or Insured by the United States Government and the Agency for International Development, dated April 7, 1997.

SEC. 204. ESTABLISHMENT.

There is established the Vietnam Education Foundation as an independent establishment of the executive branch under section 104 of title 5, United States Code.

SEC. 205. BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

(a) IN GENERAL- The Foundation shall be subject to the supervision and direction of the Board of Directors, which shall consist of 13 members, as follows:

- (1) Two members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, one of whom shall be appointed upon the recommendation of the Majority Leader and one of whom shall be appointed upon the recommendation of the Minority Leader, and who shall serve as ex officio, nonvoting members.
- (2) Two members of the Senate, appointed by the President pro tempore, one of whom shall be appointed upon the recommendation of the Majority Leader

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and one of whom shall be appointed upon the recommendation of the Minority Leader, and who shall serve as ex officio, nonvoting members.

(3) Secretary of State.

(4) Secretary of Education.

(5) Secretary of Treasury.

(6) Six members to be appointed by the President from among individuals in the nongovernmental sector who have academic excellence or experience in the fields of concentration specified in section 202(1)(A) or a general knowledge of Vietnam, not less than three of whom shall be drawn from academic life.

(b) ROTATION OF MEMBERSHIP- (1) The term of office of each member appointed under subsection (a)(6) shall be 3 years, except that of the members initially appointed under that subsection, two shall serve for terms of 1 year, two shall serve for terms of 2 years, and two shall serve for terms of 3 years.

(2) A member of Congress appointed under subsection (a)(1) or (2) shall not serve as a member of the Board for more than a total of 6 years.

(3) (A) Any member appointed to fill a vacancy prior to the expiration of the term for which his or her predecessor was appointed shall be appointed for the remainder of such term.

(B) Upon the expiration of his or her term of office, any member may continue to serve until a successor is appointed.

(c) CHAIR- The voting members of the Board shall elect one of the members appointed under subsection (a)(6) to serve as Chair.

(d) MEETINGS- The Board shall meet upon the call of the Chair but not less frequently than twice each year. A majority of the voting members of the Board shall constitute a quorum.

(e) DUTIES- The Board shall--

(1) provide overall supervision and direction of the Foundation;

(2) establish criteria for the eligibility of applicants, including criteria established by section 206(b), and for the selection of fellowship recipients; and

(3) select the fellowship recipients.

(f) COMPENSATION-

(1) IN GENERAL- Except as provided in paragraphs (2) and (3), each member of the Board shall serve without compensation, and members who are officers or employees of the United States shall serve without compensation.

(2) TRAVEL EXPENSES- The members of the Board shall be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, at rates authorized for employees of agencies under subchapter I of chapter 57 of title 5, United States Code, while away from their homes or regular places of business in the performance of service for the Board.

(3) COMPENSATION OF PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTEES.—The members of the Board appointed under subsection (a)(6) shall be paid at the daily equivalent of the rate of basic pay payable for positions at level V of the Executive Schedule under section 5316 of title 5, United States Code, for each day (including travel time) during which the member is engaged in the actual performance of duties as a Board member.

(g) TREATMENT OF PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTEES AS SPECIAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES.—The members of the Board appointed under subsection (a)(6) shall be special Government employees, as defined in section 202(a) of title 18, United States Code.

(h) TRAVEL REGULATIONS.—Members of the Board shall be subject to the same travel regulations as apply to officers and employees of the Department of State.

SEC. 206. FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM.

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(a) AWARD OF FELLOWSHIPS-

(1) IN GENERAL- To carry out the purposes of this title, the Foundation shall award fellowships to--

(A) Vietnamese nationals to study at institutions of higher education in the United States at graduate and post-graduate levels in the following fields: physical sciences, natural sciences, mathematics, environmental sciences, medicine, technology, and computer sciences; and

(B) United States citizens to teach in Vietnam in appropriate Vietnamese institutions in the fields of study described in subparagraph (A).

(2) SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL VOCABULARY

IN ENGLISH- Fellowships awarded to Vietnamese nationals under paragraph (1) may include funding to improve English proficiency in a fellowship recipient's field of study.

(b) CRITERIA FOR SELECTION- Fellowships under this title shall be awarded to persons who meet the minimum criteria established by the Foundation, including the following:

(1) VIETNAMESE NATIONALS- Fellowship candidates from Vietnam shall have basic English proficiency and must have the ability to meet the criteria for admission into graduate or post-graduate programs in United States institutions of higher learning.

(2) UNITED STATES CITIZEN TEACHERS- American candidates for teaching fellowships shall be highly competent in their fields and be experienced and proficient teachers.

(c) IMPLEMENTATION- The Foundation may provide, directly or by contract, for the conduct of nationwide competition for the purpose of selecting recipients of fellowships awarded under this section.

(d) AUTHORITY TO AWARD FELLOWSHIPS ON A COST-SHARING BASIS-

The Foundation may require, as a condition of the availability of funds for the award of a fellowship under this title, that an institution of higher education make available funds for such fellowship on a cost-sharing basis.

(e) FELLOWSHIP CONDITIONS- A person awarded a fellowship under this title may receive payments authorized under this title only during such periods as the Foundation finds that the person is maintaining satisfactory progress and devoting full time to study or teaching, as appropriate, and is not engaging in gainful employment other than employment approved by the Foundation pursuant to regulations of the Board and applicable law.

(f) FUNDING-

(1) FISCAL YEAR 2001-

(A) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS- There are authorized to be appropriated to the Foundation \$5,000,000 for fiscal year 2001 to carry out the activities of the Foundation.

(B) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS- Amounts appropriated pursuant to subparagraph

(A) are authorized to remain available until expended.

(2) FISCAL YEAR 2002 AND SUBSEQUENT FISCAL YEARS- Effective October 1, 2001, the Foundation shall utilize funds transferred to the Foundation under section 207.

SEC. 207. VIETNAM DEBT REPAYMENT FUND.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT- Notwithstanding any other provision of law, there is established in the Treasury a separate account which shall be known as the Vietnam Debt Repayment Fund (in this subsection referred to as the 'Fund').

(b) DEPOSITS- There shall be deposited as offsetting receipts into the Fund all payments (including interest payments) made by the Socialist Republic of Vietnam under the United States-Vietnam debt agreement.

(c) AVAILABILITY OF THE FUNDS-

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(1) FISCAL YEAR LIMITATION- Beginning with fiscal year 2002, and each subsequent fiscal year through fiscal year 2018, \$5,000,000 of the amounts deposited into the Fund (or accrued interest) each fiscal year shall be available to the Foundation, without fiscal year limitation, under paragraph (2).

(2) DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS- The Secretary of the Treasury, at least on a quarterly basis, shall transfer to the Foundation amounts allotted to the Foundation under paragraph (1) for the purpose of carrying out its activities.

(3) TRANSFER OF EXCESS FUNDS TO MISCELLANEOUS RECEIPTS- Beginning with fiscal year 2002, and each subsequent fiscal year through fiscal year 2018, the Secretary of the Treasury shall withdraw from the Fund and deposit in the Treasury of the United States as miscellaneous receipts all moneys in the Fund in excess of amounts made available to the Foundation under paragraph (1).

(d) ANNUAL REPORT- The Secretary of the Treasury shall prepare and submit annually to Congress statements of financial condition of the Fund, including the beginning balance, receipts, refunds to appropriations, transfers to the general fund, and the ending balance.

SEC. 208. FOUNDATION PERSONNEL MATTERS.

(a) APPOINTMENT BY BOARD- There shall be an Executive Director of the Foundation who shall be appointed by the Board without regard to the provisions of title 5, United States Code, or any regulation thereunder, governing appointment in the competitive service. The Executive Director shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Foundation and shall carry out the functions of the Foundation subject to the supervision and direction of the Board. The Executive Director shall carry out such other functions consistent with the provisions of this title as the Board shall prescribe. The decision to employ or terminate an Executive Director shall be made by an affirmative vote of at least six of the nine voting members of the Board.

(b) PROFESSIONAL STAFF- The Executive Director shall hire Foundation staff on the basis of professional and nonpartisan qualifications.

(c) EXPERTS AND CONSULTANTS- The Executive Director may procure temporary and intermittent services of experts and consultants as are necessary to the extent authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code to carry out the purposes of the Foundation.

(d) COMPENSATION- The Board may fix the compensation of the Executive Director and other personnel without regard to the provisions of chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of title 5, United States Code, relating to classification of positions and General Schedule pay rates, except that the rate of pay for the Executive Director and other personnel may not exceed the rate payable for level IV of the Executive Schedule under section 5315 of such title.

SEC. 209. ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL- In order to carry out this title, the Foundation may--

- (1) prescribe such regulations as it considers necessary governing the manner in which its functions shall be carried out;
- (2) receive money and other property donated, bequeathed, or devised, without condition or restriction other than it be used for the purposes of the Foundation, and to use, sell, or otherwise dispose of such property for the purpose of carrying out its functions;
- (3) accept and use the services of voluntary and noncompensated personnel;

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(4) enter into contracts or other arrangements, or make grants, to carry out the provisions of this title, and enter into such contracts or other arrangements, or make such grants, with the concurrence of a majority of the members of the Board, without performance or other bonds and without regard to section 3709 of the Revised Statutes (41 U.S.C. 5);

(5) rent office space in the metropolitan Washington, D.C., area; and

(6) make other necessary expenditures.

(b) ANNUAL REPORT- The Board shall submit to the President and to the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committee on International Relations of the House of Representatives an annual report of the operations of the Foundation under this title, including the financial condition of the Foundation.

SEC. 210. TERMINATION.

(a) IN GENERAL- The Foundation may not award any new fellowship, or extend any existing fellowship, after September 30, 2016.

(b) ABOLISHMENT- Effective 120 days after the expiration of the last fellowship in effect under this title, the Foundation is abolished.

APPENDIX 2

Vietnam Education Foundation
Board of Directors

Herbert M. Allison, Jr. – Chairman

Chairman, President and CEO, TIAA-CREF

Robert L. Bryant, Ph.D.

Professor of Mathematics, Duke University

Chuck Hagel

U.S. Senator

Frank Jao

President and CEO, Bridgecreek Development Company

John F. Kerry

U.S. Senator

George Miller

U.S. Congressman

Charles Cuong Nguyen, Ph.D.

Dean of School of Engineering, Catholic University

Rod Paige

U.S. Secretary of Education

Marilyn M. Pattillo, Ph.D.

Professor of Clinical Nursing, University of Texas

Colin L. Powell

U.S. Secretary of State

Christopher H. Smith

U.S. Congressman

John W. Snow

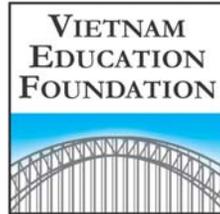
U.S. Secretary of Treasury

Van-Toi Vo, Ph.D.

Professor of Biomedical Engineering, Tufts University

APPENDIX 3

Strategy Communication Message



October 29, 2003

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We are writing to inform you of the recently approved strategy and programs of the Vietnam Education Foundation (VEF).

With the help of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences, VEF conducted an assessment study in Vietnam this summer. Based on that study, the Board of VEF has approved a strategy and accompanied program activities. The strategy and activities are expected to be modified and strengthened as time evolves to reflect our progress, learning process and newfound challenges.

Mission and Strategy: The mission of VEF is to help Vietnam build excellence in science and technology (S&T), and by doing so, bring the U.S. and Vietnam closer together. Specifically, VEF aims to help Vietnam establish a science, engineering and medical community of people and institutions that can implement a strong teaching and research agenda, create economic growth, maintain scientific cooperation with the U.S., and enable Vietnam to gain from and contribute to scientific and technological advances globally. These are ambitious but important objectives for VEF.

While its funding is essential, the most important value of VEF is our ability to leverage resources and mobilize the American scientific and educational community to help Vietnam. Our strategy therefore calls for us to be a catalyst, to focus on high-quality activities, and to expand Vietnam's existing S&T strengths.

Program Activities: Our core activities will be concentrated in two essential and complementary areas: a) selection of Vietnamese nationals for advanced studies at top U.S. graduate programs; and b) strengthening of Vietnamese teaching and research institutions so that future VEF graduates will have a suitable home base.

A. Selection of Vietnamese for VEF fellowships: VEF will provide U.S. graduate study fellowships to the most talented Vietnamese in S&T. There are three ways that a Vietnamese national can become candidate for a fellowship:

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1. He/she gains admission to a leading U.S. graduate program on his/her personal initiative. His/her graduate admission will be reviewed by a panel of American scientists who make selection recommendations for VEF; or
2. He/she goes through a nationwide competitive process conducted by VEF with the support of American and Vietnamese scientists. This process will involve a screening exam and a personal interview with leading American scientists who would then recommend the chosen candidates to top U.S. graduate programs; or
3. He/she is personally recommended by a visiting American professor who is funded by VEF to teach at the candidate's university (under the VEF Institutional Bridge Program as explained below). This American professor would recommend the candidate to his/her U.S. institution or to another top U.S. institution in the field.

In all three cases, fellowship award decisions will be made by the Board of VEF. All applicants will be considered based on their academic performance, intellectual capability and scientific promise. In general, TOEFL and GRE test scores will be required. When necessary, we will help newly-selected VEF Fellows acquire more proficiency in English in an intensive English program prior to their graduate school matriculation.

In order to produce young scientists and university faculties for Vietnam, we strongly prefer Ph.D. candidates and recent university graduates, including young college faculty. No working experience or government affiliation is required. Our fellowship is open to all qualified citizens of Vietnam, regardless of their gender, regional origin, social or political background.

While our primary focus is to look for the best Vietnamese candidates in all major S&T disciplines, we will pay attention to Information Technology (including Mathematics) and Bio-Technology, especially in Agricultural Science and Public Health. These disciplines are included in Vietnamese Government's S&T agenda, and all three priority fields (IT/Math, Agricultural Science and Public Health) have shown signs of strength and potential excellence. In the future, this list of priority fields might change or be expanded to respond to the emerging S&T needs of Vietnam.

B. Strengthening of Vietnamese Institutions: While helping Vietnam develop talents, VEF will also support the strengthening of educational and research institutions. If not, Vietnam would face a brain drain challenge in the future when well-trained Vietnamese scientists have no place to practice at home. To help Vietnam prevent this problem, we will mobilize American professors and scientists to work with some Vietnamese institutions to improve their teaching and research capabilities. This will be our Institutional Bridge Program.

To begin this long-term program, VEF will select a Vietnamese university for partnership with a leading U.S. graduate department in each of the three priority fields (IT/Math, Agricultural Science and Public Health). The Institutional Bridge Program will be the vehicle for bilateral exchanges of students and faculty. American professors will teach at the three universities, identify talents and

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recommend them for VEF fellowships, and assist the Vietnamese counterparts in curriculum, teaching and research improvements.

In addition to these three Vietnamese universities, VEF will establish a VEF Seminar Program at the National Center for Science and Technology (NCST). This program will bring top American scientists to the NCST for advanced lectures and research exchanges. Our aim is to help the NCST become a focal point for bilateral scientific cooperation with the U.S. – and possibly become a center of excellence over time.

Other Activities: Besides its core program, VEF will conduct three other activities to support its mission:

1. Quality Assessment of Vietnamese University Departments: In order to establish a baseline and measure future success, VEF will ask the U.S. National Academy of Science to perform a quality assessment of the three Vietnamese university departments that VEF will support in the Institutional Bridge Program.
2. Educational Website on U.S. Graduate Program: VEF will spearhead an effort to establish a reliable website to help Vietnamese students in their search for educational opportunities in the U.S.
3. National S&T Fair: VEF will establish an annual contest on science projects in Vietnam to promote interests in S&T and recruit candidates for VEF fellowships.

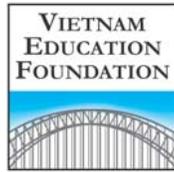
Management: VEF will maintain its head office in Washington D.C. and open a field office in Hanoi by the end of 2003. We expect to have the cooperation and support from highly respected organizations such as the National Academy of Sciences and the Institute of International Education, as well as the scientific and educational communities in the U.S. and Vietnam.

We appreciate your continuing interest in VEF and ask for your support as we embark on this important mission.

Sincerely,

Kien Pham
Executive Director
Phone: 703-351-5053
Email: KienPham@vef.gov

APPENDIX 4



VEF Fellowship Application and Selection Process

The Vietnam Education Foundation (VEF) Fellowship application and selection process is open, competitive, and transparent. The process involves three stages: 1) qualification screening; 2) technical review; and 3) oral exam.

1) **ROUND ONE – Qualification Screening**

In January, VEF places public announcements and recruitment ads in local newspapers and web portals in Vietnam prior to the active online application period. The application and requirements for the fellowship are posted on the VEF website (www.vef.gov). Applicants submit an online application form, a personal essay, official school transcripts, college entrance exam scores, and a TOEFL score of a minimum of 500. After a screening process based on past academic performance, qualified applicants are invited to take a standardized test provided by the Educational Testing Service (ETS) and administered by the Institute of International Education (IIE). The test is scored by ETS and the results are sent to VEF.

2) **ROUND TWO – Technical Review**

Applicants are divided by discipline and ranked according to their test scores. Applications of those in the top 50% within each discipline are then reviewed by the U.S. National Academies' professional staff. The technical review evaluation is based on the candidate's achievement and potential to make a contribution to science as shown by his/her past academic performance, test results, prior research and work experience, honors and recognition, and statement of purpose. The top candidates are then invited for an oral exam.

3) **ROUND THREE – Oral Exam**

In the summer, a group of leading American scientists travel to Vietnam under the invitation of the U.S. National Academies to conduct oral exams of the candidates. These scientists are divided into teams according to their discipline and supported by one Vietnamese professor who is able to provide local contextual input. Each oral exam lasts up to 45 minutes and is conducted in English. The candidate is expected to display subject knowledge, problem-solving abilities, and communication skills.

At the end of the oral exam, the U.S. panelists vote to recommend, or not recommend, the candidate for a Fellowship. The vote has to be unanimous for an affirmative recommendation. A note taker records the oral exam and its outcome. For each selectee, recommendation letters for graduate schools are composed and signed by the American scientists before they depart Vietnam and are ready to be sent to the selectees upon final approval by the Board of VEF.

The list of all recommended selectees is submitted to the VEF Board for approval in mid-October, and selectees are notified by the end of October.

APPENDIX 5

2004 Panelists: January and August Missions

Dr. Alfred V. Aho
Professor
Columbia University

Dr. David Aspnes
Distinguished University Professor
North Carolina State University

Dr. R. Palmer Beasley
Dean and Ashbel Smith Professor
University of Texas-Houston Health Science Center

Dr. Jesse L. Beauchamp
Mary and Charles Ferkel Professor of Chemistry
California Institute of Technology

Gertrude A. Bennett
Associate Professor
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

Dr. Robert H. Bishop
Professor and Chair
University of Texas at Austin

Richard E. Blahut
Henry Magnuski Professor
University of Illinois

Dr. Robert L. Bryant
J. M. Kreps Professor
Duke University

Dr. Hui-Ming Chang
Associate Professor
University of Texas-Houston, Health Science Center

Dr. Ross B. Corotis
Denver Business Challenge Professor
University of Colorado

Dr. Jose B. Cruz, Jr.
**Howard D. Winbigler Chair in Engineering
and Professor of Electrical Engineering**
Ohio State University

Dr. Ernest R. Davidson
Distinguished Professor
University of Washington

Dr. Stephen W. Director
Whitaker Professor
University of Michigan

Dr. Minh N. Do
Assistant Professor

University of Illinois

Dr. Zvi Galil
**Dean, Fu Foundation School of Engineering &
Applied Science**
Columbia University

Dr. William C. Gear
President Emeritus
NEC Research Institute, Inc.

Dr. Phillip A. Griffiths
Director
Institute for Advanced Study

Dr. George Haddad
Robert J. Hiller Professor
University of Michigan

Dr. John E. Hopcroft
John C. Ford Professor
Cornell University

Dr. Anita K. Jones
Lawrence R. Quarles Professor of Engineering
University of Virginia

Dr. Randy H. Katz
**United Microelectronics Corporation
Distinguished Professor**
University of California at Berkeley

Dr. Chung Wook Kim
President
Korea Institute for Advanced Study

Dr. Arnold J. Levine
Harry C. Weiss Professor
Institute of Advanced Study

SonBinh Nguyen
Associate Professor
Northwestern University

Dr. Charles R. O'Melia
**Abel Wolman Professor of Environmental
Engineering**
Johns Hopkins University

Marilyn Pattillo
Assistant Professor
University of Texas, Austin

Dr. William B. Rouse
H. Milton and Carolyn J. Stewart Chair and
Professor
Georgia Institute of Technology

Dr. Dam T. Son
Associate Professor
University of Washington

Dr. Tran N. Truong
Ecole Polytechnique Federale

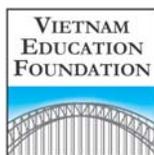
Dr. Jaw-Kai Wang
Professor of Bioengineering
University of Hawaii

Dr. Walter J. Weber, Jr.
The Gordon M. Fair and Earnest Boyce
Distinguished University Professor
University of Michigan

Dr. Marianne Winslett
Adjunct Professor
University of Illinois

Dr. Edward T. Yeh
Professor and Chair of Cardiology
M.D. Anderson Cancer Center

APPENDIX 6



Universities and Fields of Study of 2003 and 2004 VEF Fellows (Total: 102 Fellows)

SUMMARY: The Vietnam Education Foundation 2003 and 2004 Fellows are attending the following 37 universities and studying in 45 subject fields. Most (84%) are pursuing a doctorate degree while some (16%) are pursuing a master's degree. Females number 22% and males 78%. The majority of Fellows (60%) have been young university instructors in Vietnam. The major fields of study are divided between Engineering (42%) and Natural Sciences (58%). Within those broad groupings, Computer and Information Sciences leads (19%), followed by Health and Medical Sciences (17%), Electrical and Computer Engineering (11%), Biological Sciences (5%), Chemistry (5%), Mathematical Sciences (5%) and Physics (5%).

UNIVERSITY	FIELDS
Arizona State University (ASU)	Computer Science
Bradley University (Bradley)	Electrical Engineering
Brown University (Brown)	Physics
Carnegie Mellon University (Carnegie Mellon)	Information Systems Management
Columbia University (Columbia)	Electrical Engineering
Cornell University (Cornell)	Environmental Toxicology
Georgia Institute of Technology (Georgia Tech)	Civil Engineering, Computing
Iowa State University (Iowa State)	Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering, Environmental Engineering
Johns Hopkins University (Johns Hopkins)	Disease Prevention and Control, Electrical and Computer Engineering, Engineering in Computer Science, Public Health
Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)	Applied Mathematics, Geotechnical Engineering, Physics
New York University (NYU)	Mathematics
Northeastern University (Northeastern)	Electrical Engineering
Ohio University (Ohio)	Mathematics
Princeton University (Princeton)	Mathematics
Purdue University (Purdue)	Industrial Engineering
Rutgers University (Rutgers)	Chemical Engineering, Computer Science, Mathematics
Stanford University (Stanford)	Chemical Engineering
State University of New York at Buffalo (SUNY Buffalo, University at Buffalo – UB)	Computer Science and Engineering
State University of New York at New Paltz (SUNY New Paltz)	Computer Science
Tufts University (Tufts)	Biomedical Engineering
University of California at Berkeley (UC Berkeley)	Civil and Environmental Engineering
University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA)	Computer Science
University of Chicago (Chicago)	Computer Science
University of Florida (UF)	Mechanical Engineering
University of Georgia (UGA)	Ecology

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UNIVERSITY	FIELDS
University of Hawaii at Manoa (Manoa)	Interdisciplinary Ecology, Natural Resources and Environmental Management
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (Illinois)	Chemistry, Civil and Environmental Engineering, Computer Science, Electrical and Computer Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Mechanical and Industrial Engineering, Physics, Theoretical and Applied Mechanics
University of Maryland at College Park (Maryland)	Meteorology
University of Michigan at Ann Arbor (Michigan)	Aerospace Engineering, Civil Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Environmental Engineering, Industrial & Operations Engineering, Materials Science & Engineering, Mechanical Engineering
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (UNC)	Biochemistry & Biophysics, Epidemiology, Health Behavior & Health Education, Maternal and Child Health, Nutrition
University of Pennsylvania (Penn)	Cranio-Maxillofacial Surgery
University of Southern California (USC)	Geography
University of Texas at Austin (UT Austin)	Civil Engineering, Electrical and Computer Engineering, Engineering Mechanics
University of Texas at Houston (UT Houston)	Biomedical Sciences, Epidemiology, Health Promotion/Health Education, International and Family Health, Management and Policy Sciences—Public Health
University of Utah (Utah)	Chemistry, Physical Chemistry
University of Virginia (UVA)	Computer Science
Yale University (Yale)	Public Health
TOTAL 37 Universities	45 Fields

APPENDIX 7**VEF Fellows: Cohort 1 (2003) and Cohort 2 (2004)**
(Name, University, Field of Study, Degree Program)

Family name	Middle name	First name	Gender	University	Field of Study	Degree	Cohort Year
Bach	Hung	Nguyen	M	Johns Hopkins University, MD	Engineering in Computer Science	MS	2003
Bui	My	Hanh	F	University of Pennsylvania	Cranio-Maxillofacial Surgery	DMD	2003
Bui	Xuan	Loc	M	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	Electrical and Computer Engineering	MS/PhD	2004
Bui	Cong	Thanh	M	Yale University	Public Health	MS	2004
Dang	Van	Chinh	M	University of Texas at Houston	Epidemiology	MS/PhD	2004
Dang	Huy	Cuong	M	Brown University	Physics	PhD	2004
Dang	Dinh	Thi	M	University of Florida	Mechanical Engineering	PhD	2003
Dau	Hong	Ngoc	M	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	Civil and Environmental Engineering	Graduate/PhD	2004
Dinh	Huu	Hai	M	University of Michigan	Civil Engineering	MS	2004
Dinh	Lan	Phuong	F	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	Electrical and Computer Engineering	MS/PhD	2004
Do	Tien	Anh	M	Georgia Institute of Technology	Civil Engineering	PhD	2004
Do	Ba	Thanh	M	University of Michigan	Materials Science & Engineering	PhD	2004
Do	Trung	Thong	M	Johns Hopkins University	Electrical and Computer Engineering	PhD	2004
Duong	Thi	Hao	F	University of Texas at Houston	Health Promotion/Health Education	DPH	2004
Duong	Tuan	Hung	M	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	Chemistry	PhD	2004
Ha	Huu	Toan	M	University of Texas at Houston	Health Promotion/Health Education	DPH	2004
Hoang	Kim	Chi	F	Iowa State University	Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering	PhD	2004
Hoang	Minh	Duc	M	Columbia University	Electrical Engineering	PhD	2004
Hoang	Manh	Quang	M	Princeton University	Mathematics	Graduate/PhD	2004
Huynh	Kim	Lam	M	University of Utah	Physical Chemistry	PhD	2003
Huynh	Tien	Phong	M	Rutgers University	Chemical Engineering	PhD	2004
Khieu	Huu	Loc	M	University of Michigan	Aerospace Engineering	PhD	2004
Kieu	Quoc	Chanh	M	University of Maryland	Meteorology	PhD	2003
La	Nguyen Hung	Chinh	M	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	Electrical and Computer Engineering	MS/PhD	2004
Le	Ngoc	Anh	M	University at Buffalo, State U. of New York	Computer Science and Engineering	MS	2003
Le	Hoai	Chau	M	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	Civil and Environmental Engineering	Graduate/PhD	2004

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Le	Thu	Ha	F	University of Texas at Austin	Electrical & Computer Engineering (Energy Systems)	PhD	2004
Le	Khac	Hieu	M	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	Computer Science	MS	2004
Le	Thi	Ly	F	University of Utah	Chemistry	PhD	2004
Le	Quang	Nam	M	New York University	Mathematics	PhD	2004
Le		Quoc	M	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	Computer Science	PhD	2004
Le	Viet	Thang	M	Rutgers University	Computer Science	PhD	2004
Le		Tung	M	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	Electrical and Computer Engineering	MS/PhD	2004
Le	Hoang	Tung	M	Purdue University	Industrial and Systems Engineering	PhD	2003
Luong	Viet	Nhiem	M	University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	Maternal and Child Health	MPH	2004
Ngo	Duc	Anh	M	University of Texas at Houston	Health Promotion/Health Education	DPH	2004
Ngo	Minh	Duc	M	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	Mechanical and Industrial Engineering	Graduate/PhD	2004
Ngo	Trung	Thanh	M	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	Computer Science	MS	2004
Nguyen	The	Anh	M	Tufts University	Biomedical Engineering	PhD	2004
Nguyen	Tri	Dung	M	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	Applied Mathematics	PhD	2004
Nguyen	Truong	Giang	M	Carnegie Mellon University	Information Systems Management	MS	2004
Nguyen	Thi Hong	Hanh	F	University of Georgia	Ecology	PhD	2004
Nguyen	Minh	Hien	F	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	Electrical and Computer Engineering	MS/PhD	2004
Nguyen	Thanh	Hoa	M	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	Computer Science	PhD	2004
Nguyen	Quang	Hoang	M	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	Geotechnical Engineering	PhD	2004
Nguyen	Viet	Hoang	M	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	Computer Science	PhD	2004
Nguyen	Cong	Khanh	M	Johns Hopkins University	Disease Prevention and Control	PhD	2004
Nguyen	Chi	Kien	M	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	Electrical and Computer Engineering	MS/PhD	2004
Nguyen	Thi Bich	Lan	F	University of Michigan	Industrial & Operations Engineering	MS	2004
Nguyen	Thi Thanh	Lich	F	University of Texas at Houston	Biomedical Sciences	MS/PhD	2004
Nguyen	Duy	Long	M	University of California, Berkeley	Civil and Environmental Engineering	PhD	2004
Nguyen	Le	Luc	M	Rutgers University	Mathematics	PhD	2004
Nguyen	Quoc	Minh	M	Georgia Institute of Technology	Computing	PhD	2004
Nguyen	Hoang	Nam	M	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	Physics	PhD	2004
Nguyen	Tuan	Nam	M	University of California, Los Angeles	Computer Science	PhD	2004

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Nguyen	Cong	Nghia	M	University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	Epidemiology	PhD	2004
Nguyen	Thi Minh	Nguyet	F	University of Virginia	Computer Science	Graduate/PhD	2004
Nguyen	Cuong	Quoc	M	University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	Epidemiology	PhD	2004
Nguyen	Thanh	Son	M	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	Physics	Graduate/PhD	2004
Nguyen	Hong	Tam	M	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	Civil and Environmental Engineering	Graduate/PhD	2004
Nguyen	Van	Thang	M	University of Texas at Houston	Biomedical Sciences	MS/PhD	2004
Nguyen	Thi Minh	Thao	F	University of Southern California	Geography: Geographical Information Systems (GIS)	PhD	2004
Nguyen	Thi Thu	Thuy	F	University of Texas at Austin	Civil Engineering	PhD	2004
Nguyen	Thi Thu	Trang	F	Tufts University	Biomedical Engineering	PhD	2004
Nguyen	Thanh	Tuan	M	University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	Nutrition	PhD	2004
Nguyen	Kieu	Cuong	M	Brown University, RI	Physics	PhD	2003
Nguyen	Duc	Dung	M	Northeastern University, MA	Electrical Engineering	PhD	2003
Nguyen	Dong	Giang	M	Bradley University, IL	Electrical Engineering	MS	2003
Nguyen	Thai	Ha	M	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	Electrical Engineering	PhD	2003
Nguyen	Giao	Hoa	M	University of Utah	Physical Chemistry	PhD	2003
Nguyen	Viet	Hung	M	Arizona State University	Computer Science	PhD	2003
Nguyen	Quang	Huy	M	Iowa State University	Environmental Engineering	PhD	2003
Nguyen	Thanh	Son	M	New Paltz Graduate School, State U. of New York	Computer Science	MS	2003
Nguyen	Manh	Tuong	M	University at Buffalo, State U. of New York	Computer Science and Engineering	MS	2003
Nguyen	Quoc	Viet	M	Ohio University, Athens OH	Mathematics	MS	2003
Pham	Tuan	Minh	M	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	Physics	PhD	2004
Pham	Duc	Nam	M	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	Electrical and Computer Engineering	MS/PhD	2004
Pham	Hong	Phuong	M	Stanford University	Chemical Engineering	MS	2004
Pham	Thi Minh	Tam	F	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	Computer Science	PhD	2004
Pham	Thi Hoang	Van	F	Johns Hopkins University	Public Health	DPH	2004
Pham	Bao	Yen	F	University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	Biochemistry & Biophysics	PhD	2004
Phan	Thi Thu	Ha	F	University of Texas at Houston	International and Family Health	DPH	2004
Phan	Trieu	Giang	M	University of Hawaii, Honolulu	Geography	PhD	2003
Tran	Duc	Han	M	University of Texas at Austin	Engineering Mechanics	PhD	2004
Tran	Dai	Nghia	M	University of Hawaii, Honolulu	Natural Resources and Environmental Management	PhD	2003

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Tran		Phuong	M	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	Theoretical and Applied Mechanics	Graduate/PhD	2004
Tran	Anh	Tuan	M	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	Theoretical and Applied Mechanics	Graduate/PhD	2004
Tran	Van	Xuan	M	University of Michigan	Mechanical Engineering	PhD	2004
Trinh	Quy	Bon	M	University of Texas at Houston	Biomedical Sciences	MS/PhD	2004
Trinh	Thi Kim	Chi	F	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	Computer Science	PhD	2004
Trinh	Thi	Hoa	F	University of Michigan	Environmental Engineering	PhD	2004
Trinh	Nguyen	Hoang	M	University of Chicago	Computer Science	PhD	2004
Trinh	Van	Thang	M	University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	Health Behavior & Health Education	PhD	2004
Truong	Thanh	Tu	M	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	Chemistry	PhD	2004
Van	Tu	Anh	F	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	Electrical and Computer Engineering	MS/PhD	2004
Vo	Thi Kieu	Loan	F	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	Electrical and Computer Engineering	MS/PhD	2004
Vu	Viet	Anh	M	Columbia University	Electrical Engineering	MS/PhD	2004
Vu	Hoang	Ha	M	Carnegie Mellon University	Information Systems Management	MS	2004
Vu	Hai	Long	M	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	Computer Science	PhD	2004
Vu	Toan	Thang	M	University of Michigan	Electrical Engineering	MS	2004
Vu	Chinh	Thien	M	University of Texas at Houston	Management and Policy Sciences (Public Health)	PhD	2004
Vuong	Van	Thu	M	Cornell University	Environmental Toxicology	PhD	2004

APPENDIX 8

**Vietnam Education Foundation Fellowship
(Sample) Terms of Appointment**

May 15, 2004

The Institute of International Education (IIE) congratulates you for being awarded a fellowship by the Vietnam Foundation (VEF) to pursue graduate study at University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. VEF has appointed IIE to serve as your fellowship administrator for 2004-2005. Your fellowship provides for a full-time program in your field of study as described below. You are expected to meet the academic requirements of your U.S. university, abide by the Terms and Conditions of your fellowship, and comply with U.S. J-visa regulations.

It is important that you clearly understand all of the information included in this document. You must confirm your agreement with the information contained in this document by signing your name on the last page of this document. This grant letter is not valid until signed by you. Please sign and return the original copy.

PERSONAL INFORMATION:

Name: xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
Permanent Address: xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx Viet Nam
Home Country: Vietnam
Grantee I.D.: (IIE identification number)
Designation: VEF
Grant Start Date: June 20, 2004
Grant End Date: August 31, 2005

ESL PROGRAM: University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Start Date: June 20, 2004
End Date: August 15, 2004

ACADEMIC PROGRAM: University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Start Date: 8/25/2004
Field of Study: Electrical and Computer Engineering
Degree Objective: M.S.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

IIE Contact:
Emiko Nagano
Student Services Officer
Institute of International Education
Phone: (212) 984-5493 Fax: (212) 984-5465
E-mail: enagano@iie.org

VEF Contact:
Kien Pham

Executive Director
Phone: (703) 351-5053 Fax: (703) 351-1423
Email: KienPham@VEF.gov

FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

Please note carefully: It is recommended that you bring supplementary funds of your own to cover initial expenses and, due to inflation, to cover miscellaneous expenses that you might incur.

This fellowship will provide funds for the following:

ESL Program Costs

- ESL Program tuition, housing, and health insurance: \$3,130. Paid directly by VEF to the university
- ESL Stipend: You will receive \$1,325 for the duration of time between your ESL program start date and your academic program start date.

Academic Program Costs

- Academic Program Tuition and Fees: Tuition and fees, approximately \$xxxxx for the academic year. To be paid directly to the university by IIE.
- Insurance: To be paid directly to the university by IIE.
- Monthly Maintenance: \$1,085.00. Your first payment will be prorated according to the academic program start date indicated on page one.
- One-time settling-in allowance: \$500. \$200 will be provided to you at the orientation in Hanoi. The remaining \$300 will be provided in your September stipend payment.
- Books and supplies allowance: \$1200 per academic year

You will be responsible for planning and using these funds carefully to cover your obligations for housing and other living expenses.

In order to maintain funding and your grant status during the grant period indicated on page one, you must make satisfactory progress in your authorized study program and be enrolled full-time during the academic year. If you complete your authorized study program prior to your grant end date, that completion date supersedes the grant end date indicated on page one.

Billing Information: Please advise the bursar's office at your university to direct all tuition, fees, and insurance invoices to:

Emiko Nagano
Student Services Officer
Institute of International Education
809 UN Plaza
New York, NY 10017

Grant Renewability: Your grant is renewable annually pending:

1. Full compliance with the terms of this document
2. Good academic standing at your university
3. Evidence of your academic progress
4. Your financial requirements
5. University financial support

6. Availability of VEF funds

Employment: You are entitled to apply for work up to 20 hours per week at your university in the United States as defined by the J-1 Visitor Exchange Program. Furthermore, you are entitled to apply for academic training. Academic training is work, training or experience related to the your field of study and may be paid or unpaid.

For students in pre-doctoral study, the time limit for academic training must be equal to 18 months or equal to the amount of time spent in full time study in the US whichever is less. For example a student who completes a 12-month master's degree program is eligible for 12 months of academic training minus any time spent in academic training prior to completion of studies. A student who completes a 24-month MS program is eligible for 18 months of academic training minus any time spent in academic training prior to completion of studies.

The overall time limit for Academic Training after the completion of a U.S. doctoral degree is 36 months. The training is authorized in 18-month increments. A student who has already done graduate work outside the US and is admitted to a US institution with advanced standing and therefore needs only 2 years of graduate school to complete the Ph.D. is not eligible to 36 months of academic training. The academic training period may not exceed the period of full course of study in the United States.

To qualify for academic training, the following procedure will apply: (1) your academic advisor must write a letter certifying that the proposed academic training is relevant to your field of study; (2) the academic training site must clearly describe the job responsibilities, starting and ending dates, number of hours per week, and financial compensation (if any); and (3) all internships must be approved in advance by VEF and IIE.

ROLE OF THE INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION (IIE): IIE administers the 2004-2005 VEF fellowship program under contract from VEF. IIE is responsible for your visa status, pre-departure preparation, grant disbursement to you and the university, and monitoring your academic progress. You are required to keep IIE informed and to discuss with IIE any proposed changes in your current or future plans that differ from the program authorized in this document.

DURATION OF STAY: You are required to complete the full period of study as specified on page one, and to obtain approval from VEF through IIE for any further stay beyond this period. Should an emergency necessitate early departure, prior approval must be obtained through IIE. Neither VEF nor IIE will be liable for any claim or claims resulting from your failure to enter upon or to complete the program.

RETURN TO VIETNAM:

VEF is a US government agency. By accepting this grant from VEF, you agree to return to Vietnam upon completion of your education and academic training program. Failure to do so will be seen as noncompliance with the grant terms and could result in legal action by the US government. This legal action could negatively impact your ability to travel to the US in the future.

REVISION OF TERMS: VEF and IIE reserve the right to revise or adjust these grant provisions if conditions require without prior consultation with or agreement by you. Conditions may include late arrival, extended travel outside of the U.S., and changes in financial resources available to you in the United States. You must report to IIE and VEF in writing any grants, other awards, or employment opportunities not described in this document.

RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES: Grantees are private citizens retaining their rights of personal, intellectual and artistic freedom as guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States. All recipients of VEF awards shall have full academic and artistic freedom, including freedom to write, publish and create.

You are responsible for observing satisfactory academic and professional standards and for maintaining a standard of conduct and integrity which is in keeping with the spirit and intent of the VEF fellowship and which will contribute positively to promotion of mutual understanding between the people of the United States and Vietnam. You are expected to obey U.S. laws during your stay in the U.S.

J-1 EXCHANGE VISITOR VISA: IIE will provide a DS-2019 form and instructions for securing a J-1 visa under the Exchange Visitor Program as required by your VEF grant. You are personally responsible, financially and otherwise, for making all arrangements for securing your passport and visa. Your grant is available only if you can obtain a passport and a visa. IIE will be responsible for documentation required to extend your permission to stay in the US throughout the period of your authorized VEF fellowship participation.

Upon expiration of your Exchange Visitor J-1 visa status, you are required to reside in your home country, Vietnam, for two years before you may apply for 1) a non-immigrant (H or L) visa as temporary workers; 2) permanent residence in the U.S.; 3) an immigration visa. During these two years, if granted, you can enter the U.S. on other visa types such as visitor or business. **The VEF fellowship requires you to return to Vietnam at the conclusion of your authorized education and academic training period in the U.S.**

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS: Please see Contact Information on page two for the name of the IIE representative who will serve as your program contact while you are in the United States. All reports and questions regarding your grant should be directed to this contact person.

A. You are required to sign and return a copy of these Terms of Appointment to IIE within ten days of receipt.

B. U.S. federal visa regulations require that you must send to IIE your local U.S. address and other contact information (including telephone number and e-mail). You must report the address of the actual physical location where you are residing in the U.S. to your IIE contact within ten (10) days of your arrival. Throughout the period of your grant, you must keep IIE informed of any subsequent changes to your address or contact information within ten (10) days of the change. If the address where you will receive mail is different from where you physically reside you must inform IIE of both addresses.

C. It is a requirement of both your VEF fellowship and your visa status for you to be in full-time academic standing in your authorized study program. You must send IIE confirmation of either enrollment or commencement of program at the start of each academic term, as well as a transcript of your grades at the end of each academic term. You will not receive your monthly stipend payment if you fail to submit an official copy of your transcript/s by February 15 and July 15 respectively.

D. IIE will request reports and other information from you and your institution concerning your academic program. These must be completed and returned to IIE within the timeframe indicated in each request.

E. You must inform IIE if you are planning travel outside of the United States during your grant period.

TAXES AND REQUIRED IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: As a recipient of grant income in the United States, you are required to obtain a Social Security Number or Individual Tax Payer Identification Number. Please inform IIE of this number within 45 days of the start of your academic program. You are required by law to file a U.S. federal income tax return for each calendar year in which you receive funds from VEF. VEF has authorized IIE to pay the tax withholding on your grant amount. IIE's GranTax division will file an income tax return on your behalf and reclaim all tax refunds on behalf of VEF. **You are required to cooperate with IIE for income tax filing. Failure to comply with these terms may result in termination of your grant.**

REVOCAION, TERMINATION OR SUSPENSION OF AWARD:

A. If you fail to sign and return a copy of this grant letter within 10 days after receiving it, the fellowship offer may be withdrawn by VEF.

B. A grant may be revoked, terminated, or suspended. In a revocation, the grantee is considered as not having received the grant and will not be an alumnus or alumna of the VEF program. In a termination, unless otherwise stated, the grant will be considered to have ended when VEF announces its decision to terminate. In a suspension, the grant will be considered inoperative until a decision is made to reinstate, revoke or terminate the grant.

C. IIE and your university have the authority to recommend to VEF to revoke or terminate the grant. If revocation or termination is recommended, the grantee will have an opportunity to respond to the recommendation. A review of the circumstances will be considered before a final decision is made.

D. Grounds for revocation or termination include, but are not limited to: (1) violation of the laws of the United States; (2) any act likely to give offense to the United States because it is contrary to the spirit and mission of VEF; (3) failure to observe satisfactory academic or professional standards; (4) physical or mental incapacitation; (5) engaging in unauthorized income-producing activities; (6) failure to comply with the grant's terms and conditions; (7) material misrepresentation made by any grantee in a grant application form or grant document; (8) violation of visa regulations or SEVIS reporting requirements. VEF also has authority to terminate a grant on either of the following grounds: (1) that the grantee has exhausted all benefits of health and accident insurance provided to the grantee by IIE in connection with the grant, and continued medical treatment would lead to the grantee becoming a public charge; or, (2) that the grantee requires such protracted medical treatment that successful completion of the objectives of the grant is jeopardized. The procedure for any such termination shall be the same as that provided for the termination of grants generally, except that the recommendation for such termination, supported by the corresponding factual information, shall be made by VEF. In the event any such grounds occur during the period of a grant, it is VEF's policy that such grant should not be renewed or extended.

E. A grant may be suspended if: (1) the grantee ceases to carry out the academic program during the grant period; and/or, (2) the grantee leaves the United States for more than 14 days without prior authorization from IIE or VEF; and/or, (3) the grantee requests suspension of the grant for personal reasons. During a period of suspension, the grantee will not receive any allowance or benefits. Unless otherwise authorized by VEF no retroactive claim for such allowances or other benefits with respect to a period of suspension will be honored.

F. Grantees who remain in the US beyond periods authorized by IIE are subject to the provisions of this section.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR DEPENDENTS: You may request visa support for your dependents to join you in the United States after the completion of your first academic year. Approval is not automatic and must be made by VEF. You are required to provide adequate health and accident insurance for any dependents that accompany you. Failure to do so violates the Terms and Conditions of Award and may result in termination of your program. None of the agencies, organizations, or persons cooperating in providing your grant can assume any responsibility for the travel, insurance, and/or support of any dependents. At a minimum, the dependent insurance must provide the following benefits: (1) Medical coverage of at least \$50,000 per person per accident or illness; (2) repatriation of remains in the amount of \$7,500; and (3) medical evacuation benefits of at least \$10,000. In addition, a qualified insurance program shall not have a deductible that exceeds \$500 and it must meet other technical standards as specified in the Exchange Visitor Program regulations.

PROGRAMS OTHER THAN SPECIFIED IN TERMS: Neither VEF nor IIE has any responsibility, financial or otherwise, in connection with any program other than that specified in these Terms.

ACCEPTANCE OF TERMS OF APPOINTMENT: Sign below and return a copy of your Terms of Appointment to IIE to indicate that you understand, accept, and will comply with all provisions stated.

By my signature, I accept the Terms and Conditions appearing on all pages of this document and any addenda. Your signature will confirm your understanding of and compliance with these terms and your agreement to return to your home country upon completion of your authorized study program.

SIGNATURE: _____ **DATE:** _____

PRINT NAME: _____

APPENDIX 9**Presentations by American Scientists: Aug 9-20, 2004**

From August 9 - 20, 2004, VEF coordinated 32 different activities for fifteen visiting U.S scientists selected by the National Academies. The different activities consisted of 25 presentations, lectures and seminars; two live online interviews on Vietnamnet; one VTV television interview; three visits to additional university campuses in varying cities in Vietnam; and one field visit to catfish farms in the Mekong River Delta. The activities took place throughout Vietnam in Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City, Danang, Hue, Long Xuyen, Can Tho, and Nha Trang. Below is a list of the scientists, their U.S. institutions, and their activities in Vietnam.

No.	Name	Institution	Area	Title of Presentation or Academic Activity	Vietnamese Hosting Institution
1	Aspnes, David E.	North Carolina State University	Physics	Real-Time Application of Spectroscopic Ellipsometry to Semiconductor Heteroepitaxy and Processing	Institute of Physics Vietnamese Academy of Science and Technology
2	Beasley, R. Palmer	UT-Houston Health Sciences Center	Public Health	Towards the Eradication of HBV	Hanoi School of Public Health
				Visit to University of Danang	Institute of Hygiene and Public Health - Ho Chi Minh City
				Visit to Hue University Learning Resource Center	University of Danang. Information Resource Center, College of Engineering
				Towards the Eradication of HBV	Hue University-Learning Resource Center
3	Beauchamp, Jesse L.	California Institute of Technology	Chemistry	Post-Huygens Exploration of Titan AND Exploding Nanodroplets: Applications to Frontier Studies in Ma	Institute of Chemistry Vietnamese Academy of Science and Technology
4	Bishop, Robert H.	University of Texas, Austin	Engineering Mechanics	Event Detection and Identification During Autonomous Interplanetary Navigation and VTV2 Television Interview	Institute of Mechanics Vietnamese Academy of Science and Technology

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5	Cruz, Jose	Ohio State University	Electrical Engineering	Multi-Agent Decision-Making in Complex Systems	Institute of Mechanics Vietnamese Academy of Science and Technology
				Visit to University of Danang	University of Danang. Information Resource Center, College of Engineering
				Visit to Hue University Learning Resource Center	Hue University-Learning Resource Center
				Multi-Agent Decision-Making in Complex Systems	Hue University of Sciences
6	Gear, C. William	NEC Research Institute, Inc.	Computer Science	Multi-scale Modeling in Scientific Computing	Institute of Mathematics Vietnamese Academy of Science and Technology
				Visit to University of Danang	University of Danang. Information Resource Center, College of Engineering
				Meeting with Softech	University of Danang
				Participation in Annual National IT Conference	University of Danang, Annual National IT Conference
				Multi-scale Modeling in Scientific Computing	International University of HCMC (Vietnam National University)
7	Haddad, George	University of Michigan	Electrical Engineering	Solid State High Frequency Devices	Institute of Material Science, Vietnam Academy for Science and Technology
8	Hopcroft, John E.	Cornell University	Computer Science	A Theoretical Foundation for the Digital Age	Hanoi University of Technology
				Working Session with MOET (Members in National Committee): Education Policy Making; Designing new computer Science Curriculum in Vietnam	MOET
				Live Online Interview at VietnamNet (Giao Luu Truc Tuyen)	VietnamNet
				The Science of Information Technology for Business	University of Danang. Annual National IT Conference
9	Jones, Anita	University of Virginia	Computer Science	The Security of Cyber Infrastructure	Post and Telecommunications Institute of Technology

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				Visit to University of Danang and Presentation	University of Danang. Information Resource Center, College of Engineering
10	Katz, Randy H.	University of California, Berkeley	Computer Science	The Computer is the Network: The Emergence of Programmable Network Elements	Hanoi University of Technology
11	O'Melia, Charles R.	Johns Hopkins University	Environmental Engineering	Issues of Water Environment and Impact to Social and Economic Life in Industrialization.	MOST, National Committee for Science and Technology Policy
12	Rouse, William B	Georgia Institute of Technology	Industrial & Systems Engineering	Value-Centered R&D Organizations: Ten Principles for Characterizing, Assessing & Managing Value	MOST, National Committee for Science and Technology Policy
				(1) The Future of Industrial Engineering (2) The Need to Know: Information, Knowledge & Decision Making	Ho Chi Minh University, Saigon
13	Wang, Jaw-Kai	University of Hawaii	Aquaculture	Live Online Interview at VietnamNet (Giao Luu Truc Tuyen)	VietnamNet
				Cage Culture and Impact on Water Quality	An Giang University
				Field Visit to MKG Delta Floating Cages and Shrimp Production Sites	MKG River Delta
				Tour of Facilities Related to Artemia and Shrimp Production Research	Can Tho University
14	Weber, Walter J.	University of Michigan	Civil Engineering	Live Online Interview at VietnamNet (Giao Luu Truc Tuyen)	VietnamNet
15	Winslett, Marianne	University of Illinois	Computer Science	An Introduction to Trust Negotiation	Institute of Information and Technology Vietnamese Academy of Science and Technology